LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL Question On Notice

Tuesday, 5 April 2022

663. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

I refer to the Sweeter Bananas Cooperative of Carnarvon, and I ask:

- (a) how many grants has the Sweeter Bananas Cooperative received since inception from the Gascoyne Development Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Food;
- (b) what was the date and value of each of those grants;
- (c) what was the outcome of each of those grants and how were the results assessed; and
- (d) does the Sweeter Bananas Cooperative lease land and grow bananas themselves?

Answer

- (a) 9.
- (b-c) See attached table.
- (d) Yes.

Announcement	Value (exc	Outcomes	Assessment
Date	GST)		
13 October 1994	· ·	Implement a quality management system	Review of supporting documentation and audited financial statement in accordance with the grant agreement
5 May 2002		Fit out of mechanised packing equipment	Review of supporting documentation and audited financial statement in accordance with the grant agreement
12 November 2003		Expansion of centralised packing facility	Review of supporting documentation and audited financial statement in accordance with the grant agreement
13 March 2007		Assistance to attend the Australian Banana Growers Congress.	Proof of attendance
28 June 2010		Upgrade and expansion of power supply to centralised packing facility	Review of supporting documentation and audited financial statement in accordance with the grant agreement
29 September 2009		Desktop study and report into value adding opportunities	Review of supporting documentation and audited financial statement in accordance with the grant agreement
5 October 2018		Packaging and labelling advice from consultant	Consultant services provided
27 January 2021		Ripening and freezing facility to value-add bananas at source	Grant not complete
29 October 2021		Examining the use of regenerative agriculture practices	Grant not complete

Notes

- 1. Includes grants awarded by predecessors and successors to the Department of Agriculture and Food.
- 2. Correct name of the cooperative is Sweeter Banana Co-operative Limited.
- 3. Referring to answer (d) Sweeter Banana Co-operative Limited lease 60 hectares of banana plantations from two retired growers but the majority of bananas are sourced from member owned or managed plantations.